

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: PINT, UR

SUBJECT: FOOD SUPPLIES IN RIGA AND MOGILEV

1. DURING INTERVIEW WITH SOVIET EMIGRANTS JANUARY 22, FOOD SUPPLIES IN RIGA, LATVIA AND MOGILEV, BYELORUSSINA SSR WERE DISCUSSED. THE EMIGRANTS, WHO WERE RELATED TO EACH OTHER, COMPARED FOOD SUPPLIES IN THEIR RESPECTIVE HOMES AS WELL AS SUPPLIES THIS YEAR COMPARED WITH PREVIOUS YEARS. ACCORDING TO THE EMIGRANTS, FOOD PRICES ARE SUPPOSED TO BE IDENTICAL THROUGHOUT AN AREA INCLUDING THE BALTIC STATES AND THE BYELORUSSIAN SSR. SUPPLIES OF VARIOUS FOODS, HOWEVER, VARY GREATLY FROM A PORT AND REGIONAL CAPITAL, SUCH AS RIGA, TO AN INLAND, PROVINCIAL TOWN, SUCH AS MOGILEV.

2. THE EMIGRANTS TOLD CONSOFF THAT PORK IS AVAILABLE IN BOTH RIGA AND MOGILEV AT 2.50 R WHILE BEEF SELLS FOR 1.90 R. FISH IS AVAILABLE IN BOTH LOCALITIES BUT NOT IN THE USUAL QUANTITY. FISH SUPPLIES IN RIGA ARE PREDICTABLY BETTER THAN IN INLAND MOGILEV, BUT, IN BOTH PLACES, PRICES ARE THE SAME. COD SELLS FOR 70 K WITH OTHER TYPES OF FISH PRICED BETWEEN 50 K AND 70 K. CHICKEN IS NOT AVAILABLE EVERY DAY IN RIGA AND VERY SELDOM IN MOGILEV. ONE FAMILY MEMBER FROM RIGA NOTED THAT HE RECENTLY PAID 4.06 R FOR A CHICKEN AND THAT THE PRICE NOW IS 2 R PER KILO.

3. FRUITS AND VEGETABLES ARE IN SHORT SUPPLY IN BOTH RIGA AND
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MOGILEV. EMIGRANTS FROM BOTH PLACES REPORTED THAT NO FRUIT OR CABBAGE HAS BEEN AVAILABLE FOR THE ENTIRE WINTER. ALTHOUGH

POTATOES ARE AVAILABLE IN SUFFICIENT QUANTITY AT 10 K, NO ONIONS
ARE AVAILABLE IN EITHER RIGA OR MOGILEV. CARROTS ARE NOW SOLD
AT 16 K PER KILO.

4. BREAD IS REPORTEDLY AVAILABLE IN SUFFICIENT QUANTITY IN BOTH
MOGILEV AND RIGA AT 15 K FOR WHITE AND 14 K FOR BLACK BREAD.
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